REMARKS

Claims 1 to 29 are pending. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,945) in view of Furuhashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,583,771). The Examiner stated essentially that the combined teachings of Porter and Furuhashi teach or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention.

Claims 1 and 7 claim, *inter alia*, "a window ID allocation section for allocating a window ID for a window constituting a unit for transferring an image signal; a control signal output section for outputting a control signal for setting said window ID to be processed by said unit having said panel ID" and "a window ID allocation section for allocating a window ID for a window constituting a unit for transferring said image signal; a control signal output section for outputting a control signal to set said window ID to be processed by said unit having said panel ID", respectively. Claim 11 claims, *inter alia*, "receiving means for receiving said window ID added to the image signal, wherein the unit comprising at least one panel processes the window, based on the correspondence relation of said panel ID and said window ID." Claim 14 claims, *inter alia*, "receiving means for receiving said window ID added to the image signal, wherein the at least one predetermined number of sub-panels processes the window, based on the correspondence relation of said panel ID and said window ID." Claim 18 claims, *inter alia*, "the plurality of panels in said display have a panel ID as an identifier, wherein said host system allocates a window ID for a window in an image space." Claim 20 claims, *inter alia*, "prior to a transfer of image information, setting a window ID to be processed for said display

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section for which said panel ID is set." Claim 25 claims, *inter alia*, "reading out attribute information of a specified display panel by said host system."

Referring to claims 1 and 7, Porter teaches a method and apparatus for associating user information with conference participants in a conferencing environment (see col. 2 line 64 to Col. 3 line 8). Porter does not teach or suggest "setting said window ID to be processed by said unit having said panel ID" as claimed in claim 1 and essentially as claimed in claim 7. Porter teaches an attendee bar with a file transfer parent window, wherein the attendee bar includes multiple panels (see col. 10, lines 12-16 and Figure 6a). Porter's windows are graphical user interface (GUI) windows, and have no relevance to "a window constituting a unit for transferring an image signal" as claimed in claims 1 and 7. As suggested by the Examiner Porter does not teach the use of a window ID, and a window consisting of a unit for transferring an image signal. Accordingly, Porter does not teach or suggest that a window ID is set to be processed by a unit having a panel ID, essentially as claimed in claims 1 and 7. Therefore, Porter fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 1 and 7.

Furuhashi teaches frames corresponding to a portion of an image visible in a screen (see col. 9, lines 38-40 and Figure 6). Furuhashi does not teach or suggest "setting said window ID to be processed by said unit having said panel ID" as claimed in claim 1 and essentially as claimed in claim 7. The frames of Furuhashi have no identification. The frames of Furuhashi merely correspond to an area of a screen. Therefore, Furuhashi does not teach or suggest that a window ID is set to be processed by a unit having a panel ID, essentially as claimed in claims 1 and 7. Therefore, Furuhashi fails to cure the deficiencies of Porter.

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Claims 11, 14, 18, and 20 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for claims 1 and 7, wherein claims 11 and 14 claim, *inter alia*, "the correspondence relation of said panel ID and said window ID"; claim 18 claims, *inter alia*, "the plurality of panels in said display have a panel ID as an identifier, wherein said host system allocates a window ID for a window in an image space"; and claim 20 claims, *inter alia*, "prior to a transfer of image information, setting a window ID to be processed for said display section for which said panel ID is set."

More particularly, Porter teaches an end point displays conferencing information (see col. 5, lines 6 to 11). The display of Porter does not have an ID. Porter does not teach or suggest a panel ID or a window ID, as claimed in claims 11, 14, 18, and 20. As shown with respect to claims 1 and 7, Porter's panels and windows are unrelated to the claimed subject matter. Porter's panels are mere GUI elements within a GUI window (see Figure 6a). Neither the panels nor the windows have an identification. Therefore, Porter fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 11, 14, 18, and 20.

Furuhashi teaches frames corresponding to a portion of an image visible in a screen (see col. 9, lines 38-40 and Figure 6). Furuhashi does not teach or suggest "a window ID", as claimed in claims 11, 14, 18, and 20. As stated with respect to claims 1 and 7, the frames of Furuhashi have no identification. The frames of Furuhashi merely correspond to an area of a screen. Therefore, Furuhashi does not teach or suggest a window ID, as claimed in claims 11, 14, 18, and 20. Therefore, Furuhashi fails to cure the deficiencies of Porter.

Referring now to claim 25, Porter does not teach or suggest, "inhibiting said command from the host system from being sent to a downstream display panel." Porter teaches that each end point, e.g., a conference participant, is responsible for managing its own display of

information (col. 5, lines 6 to 11). Porter does not teach intervening participants between an end point and host. Thus, Porter does not teach or suggest a downstream display panel to which a command may be inhibited. Porter does not teach or suggest, "inhibiting said command from the host system from being sent to a downstream display panel." Therefore, Porter fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 25.

Furuhashi teaches a multi-display comprising a plurality of liquid crystal panels (see Figures 16 and 19). Furuhashi does not teach or suggest "inhibiting said command from the host system from being sent to a downstream display panel", as claimed in claim 25. Nowhere does Furuhashi teach or suggest that a panel has any control over a command, much less that a panel may inhibit a command to a downstream panel. Thus, Furuhashi does not teach or suggest "inhibiting said command from the host system from being sent to a downstream display panel", as claimed in claim 25. Therefore, Furuhashi fails to cure the deficiencies of Porter.

Claims 2 to 6 depend from claim 1. Claims 8 to 10 depend from claim 7. Claims 12 and 13 depend from claim 11. Claims 15 to 17 depend from claim 14. Claim 19 depends from claim 18. Claims 21 to 24 depend from claim 20. Claims 26 to 29 depend from claim 25. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for the independent claims. At least claims 5 and 9, and claim 27 are believed to be allowable for additional reasons.

Claim 5 claims, *inter alia*, "wherein said image signal transfer section manages an update of a screen for each window, packetizes an updated image signal when the update is needed, adds said window ID to said image signal and transfers said image signal." Claim 9 claims, *inter alia*, "wherein said image signal transfer section manages an update of a screen for each window, packetizes an updated image signal when the update is needed, and adds said window ID to said image signal, thus transferring said image signal." Claim 27 recites, inter alia, "wherein when '0'

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s outputted simultaneously from two or more of the downstream display panels to said display panel having the panel ID other than "0," one downstream display panel is selected in accordance with a priority fixed in said display panel, and said attribute information is transferred to said host system."

Referring to claims 5 and 9, Porter teaches a system and method for conferencing comprising the exchange of information between end points, wherein the end points control display functions. (See Col. 5, lines 6 to 11.) Porter does not teach adding a window ID to said image signal, essentially as claimed in claims 5 and 9. As suggested by the Examiner with respect to claims 1, 7, 11, 14, 18, 20, and 25, Porter does not teach the use of a window ID, and a window consisting of a unit for transferring an image signal. Accordingly, Porter does not teach adding a window ID to said image signal, essentially as claimed in claims 5 and 9.

Furuhashi teaches panels having panel IDs (see col. 9, lines 38-40 and Figure 6). Furuhashi does not teach or suggest adding a window ID to said image signal, essentially as claimed in claims 5 and 9. Furuhashi teaches panels displaying portions of input data for one frame corresponding to a section of a screen. Furuhashi does not teach or suggest adding a window ID to input data. Therefore, Furuhashi fails to cure the deficiencies of Porter.

Referring now to claim 27, Porter teaches that an end point displays conferencing information (see col. 5, lines 6 to 11). Porter does not teach or suggest "one downstream display panel is selected in accordance with a priority fixed in said display panel, and said attribute information is transferred to said host system" as claimed in claim 27. Nowhere does Porter teach or suggest a priority of panels, much less that one downstream display panel is

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selected in accordance with a priority fixed in said display panel, essentially as claimed in claim 27. Therefore, Porter fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 27.

Furuhashi teaches panels having panel IDs (see col. 9, lines 38-40 and Figure 6). Furuhashi does not teach or suggest does not teach or suggest "one downstream display panel is selected in accordance with a priority fixed in said display panel, and said attribute information is transferred to said host system" as claimed in claim 27. Furuhashi teaches panels have a set place in a daisy chain (see col. 16, lines 46-52). Nowhere does Furuhashi teach or suggest the selection of a display panel from among a group of display panels. Thus, Furuhashi does not teach or suggest "one downstream display panel is selected in accordance with a priority fixed in said display panel, and said attribute information is transferred to said host system" as claimed in claim 27. Therefore, Furuhashi fails to cure the deficiencies of Porter.

Accordingly, the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the forgoing reasons, the application, including claims 1 to 29 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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